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PATENT
Docket No. 4004.001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
ARAM, et al.)
Entitled: "SURGICAL INSTRUMENT AND)
RELATED METHODS")
Serial No. 10/765,950)
Filed: January 29, 2004)
Group Art Unit: 3733)
Examiner: Hoffman, Mary C.)

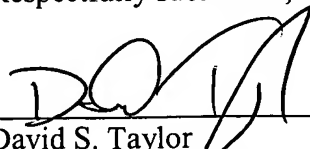
Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Applicant respectfully petitions an extension of time of one (1) month within which to respond to the Office Action of September 1, 2006. A check, which includes the amount of \$60.00 for payment of the extension fee, is attached. Should any other charges be due, then please debit Account 50-0548 and notify the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

December 11, 2006

By: 
David S. Taylor
Registration No. 39,045
Tel. No. (301) 896 0600
Fax. No. (301) 896-0607

Berenato, White & Stavish, LLC
6550 Rock Spring Drive, Suite 240
Bethesda, MD 20817

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